



# RUM

*Made from a base of sugar cane and its by products, rum is a versatile and satisfying drink, currently gaining enormous popularity and resurgence with the fashionistas of the bar drink scene.*

*In many circles the finest rums are now treated with as much respect as Cognac and Armagnac. And rightly so!*

The historical home of rum is considered to be the West Indies, Guyana, and other parts of South America. During the 18th and 19th centuries, Jamaica, Haiti and Trinidad were the largest rum producers, closely followed by Cuba and Puerto Rico.

Facunado Bacardi established a distillery in Santiago, Cuba in 1862. His brand is now the biggest selling international spirit brand (and not just rum!) in the world.

Rum is a spirit distilled from sugar cane or molasses (the syrupy residue left over after sugar has been refined). As always in distillation, yeast and water are added to begin fermentation. The fermentation liquid (the wash) usually undergoes distillation several times in copper pot stills - the same as the ones used to make brandy or whisky. The resulting spirit is always clear. To produce golden or darker rums, the spirit is aged in oak barrels (often ex-bourbon barrels). These barrels are often charred on the inside to add a smoky depth to the finished spirit. As the Caribbean has a hot climate, the barrels mature very quickly and therefore only a short (rarely more than 8 years) maturation process is needed (typically longer in cooler climates). Once fully mature the rums are blended with other rums of other ages until the producer achieves exactly the right flavour, colour and texture for their product. Any age statement on the bottle will always refer to the youngest rum in the blend.

White rums tend to be made using the continuous distillation method in a patent still.  
This gives a cleaner, more neutral spirit.

**There are 4 main styles of rum.**

**Jamacian or Navy rum** - A heavy, concentrated drink made in Jamaica, Barbados and the British Virgin Islands. This style is typically unfashionable nowadays.

**Demerara rum** - Made from molasses and originating from Guyana. Not as dark as Jamacian rum, but has a rich golden color and a strong and satisfying fruity style. Many of these rums are now given lengthy aging (up to 15 years) and are now considered to be the finest in the world.

**Light and White** - Extremely popular modern style that originated in Cuba (think Bacardi), often filtered through charcoal for smoothness and often matured in uncharred oak, leading to a more subtle flavour and just a hint of color.

**Rhum Agricole** - Primarily made on the French influenced islands - particularly Martinique. Usually made by fermenting sugar cane juice to give a light fruity and distinctive drink.

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- MOUNT GAY Eclipse (Barbados) 37.5%** **\$10**  
*Claiming to be the oldest rum company on the planet, this golden, delicate and light rum has a balanced flowery and creamy tang.*
- SAGATIBA Cachaca (Brazil) 38%** **\$10**  
*The world's first premium Cachaca is multi-distilled to retain distinct flavour characteristics with a soft aroma that's fresh, lively and delicate. This is clear, fiery, light and peppery. Made from fresh cut sugarcane.*
- DAMOISEAU Agricole Dark Reserve (Caribbean) 42%** **\$12**  
*Chocolate, spice and just a hint of orange zest. Some treacle and apricot.*
- J.M. 1999 Agricole (Martinique) 47.9%** **\$34**  
*Brown rum agricole distilled from fresh sugar cane juice .A rare bottling of 10 years old rum agricole from one of the smallest distilleries on Martinique. A powerful bouquet of spices and fruit. Bright and complex with notes of caramel, coffee, oak and cigar box. Smooth and elegant. Now extremely rare.*
- CADENHEAD Enmore Pot Still 11yr Old Demerara (Bermuda) 70%** **\$14**  
*Wood, spice, malt and honey in equal measures. One of the sweetest rums available.*
- HABITATION ST. ETIENE 2002 XO "Smokehead" (Martinique) 44%** **\$19**  
*The 'HSE' Rum Company offers a range of rums finished in ex Cognac, Whisky and Sherry casks, adopting the same principles of maturation that many innovative Single Malt Scotch whiskies have employed for decades. And as great schools of expression often turn full circle, the 2002 HSE Single Malt Finish is an 8 year old Rhum Agricole beautifully finished with 2 years in an Ian McLeod Distillers Smokehead cask previously containing Ardbeg Malt Whisky. Superb Rum.*
- FLOR DE CANA 18yr Old Centenario (Nicaragua) 40%** **\$16**  
*One of the granddaddys of the rum scene. Seriously quality, high end, Rolls-Royce of rum. Spiced and crisp up front. The palate is full bodied and quite thick with dry oak, some cocoa, spices, toffee nut and allspice. Finishes long, tingling, vanilla spice and nutty char.*
- FLOR DE CANA 7yr Old Grande Reserve (Nicaragua) 40%** **\$11**  
*The flagship of the range. Bold notes of dark chocolate and espresso coffee. A great Nicaraguan rum from Flor de Caña. This 7 year old is great as a mixing rum, and it makes a fantastic cocktail. It is aged in 180 litre white oak barrels, which are only used once before maturation - which gives the oak flavour more prominence*
- CANA BRAVA (Panama) 43%** **\$13**  
*A 3 year old rum distilled in a 1922 copper and brass still by Master Distiller Francisco "Don Pancho" J. Fernandez who was Cuban Minister of Rum for 35 years. Clean, pristine and crisp.*
- HAVANA CLUB Anejo 3 (Cuba) 40%** **\$10**  
*The nose is crisp and fresh with notes of marzipan, citrus, allspice, ground ginger, a little lime and gentle oak. The palate is clean and rounded with notes of citrus, vanilla and oak, a little spice and lemon and a delicate nutty note*
- CLEMENT RHUM Agricole Blanc (Martinique) 50%** **\$12**  
*Serious fire and noise as it flows down the back of your throat. Spicy, but still crystal clear. Drink with your favourite mixer and fresh fruit.*
- APPLETON ESTATE 12 Year Old (Jamaica) 43%** **\$10**  
*A true workhorse of the Rum industry. beautiful, rich and sweet - like the Lone Ranger's saddle bags. One of the best value Rums going around.*
- BARBANCOURT 15 Year Old (Haiti) 43%** **\$16**  
*The nose is full and fruited with mature spices. The palate has good body, complex and is very poised. A lot going on! Focused around direct around interplay of oak, fruit and toasty spices. In finishes warming and long.*